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ABSTRACT

This module on the knife machine, one in a series dealing with industrial sewing machines, their attachments, and operation, covers one topic: performing special operations on the knife machine (a single needle or multi-needle machine which sews and cuts at the same time). These components are provided: an introduction, directions, an objective, learning activities, student information, a student self-check, and a check-out activity. An instructor's final checklist for evaluating the students' performance is attached. (YLB)

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MODULE 15

THE KNIFE MACHINE

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SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Charlie G. Williams, State Superintendent of Education

Division of Instruction
Sidney B. Cooper, Deputy Superintendent

Office of Vocational Education
Dr. Moody M. Oswald, Jr., Director

Vocational Curriculum Development Section
Dr. Robert T. Benson, Chief Supervisor

South Carolina Department of Education: An Equal Opportunity Agency
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

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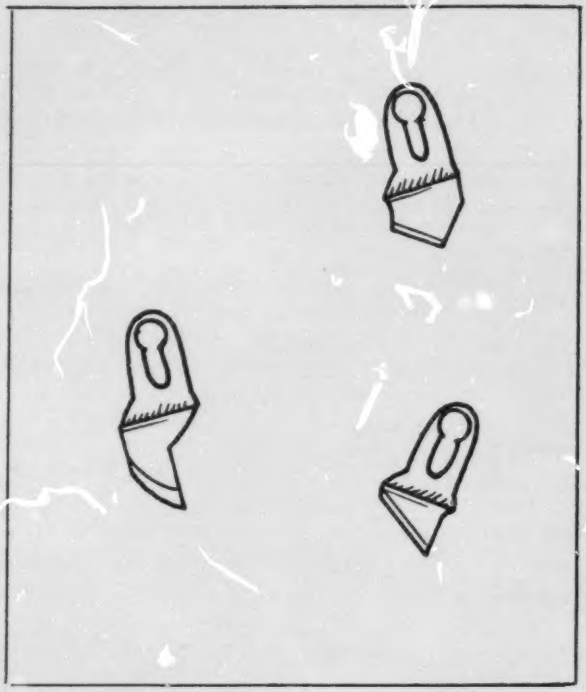

PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE KNIFE MACHINE

INTRODUCTION

The knife machine is a single needle or multi-needle machine which sews and cuts at the same time. This machine is generally used for making lingerie because the cutting and the chain stitching can be performed simultaneously. The knife machine may also be called an edge cutter.

In this module, you will learn to operate the knife machine or another machine with the knife attachment.

DIRECTIONS

Read the Objective. If you think you can accomplish this Objective now, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

If you feel you are not able to accomplish this Objective now, look at the Learning Activities. Begin the Learning Activities and as soon as you feel you are ready, turn to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

OBJECTIVE

Given a knife machine or a machine with a knife attachment, thread, snips, and fabric, stitch a seam according to specifications.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

1. READ Student Information, THE KNIFE MACHINE.
2. VIEW a teacher demonstration on using the knife machine.
3. COMPLETE Student Self-Check, THE KNIFE MACHINE.
4. TURN to the Check-Out Activity and follow the instructions.

STUDENT INFORMATION

The Knife Machine

The multi-needle knife machine is used anywhere the fabric should be cut away to

reduce the amount of extra cloth in the seam. This machine sews and cuts at the same time. This machine should not be confused with the overlock (serger) machine where the edge of the fabric is overcast.

The knife machine threads like the felling machine. The knife is part of the sewing machine and allows the fabric to be cut as it is sewn. The knife is to the right of the presser foot and moves up and down with the needle bar. The knife acts as the top half of a pair of scissors while the bottom half is in the throat plate (Figure 1).

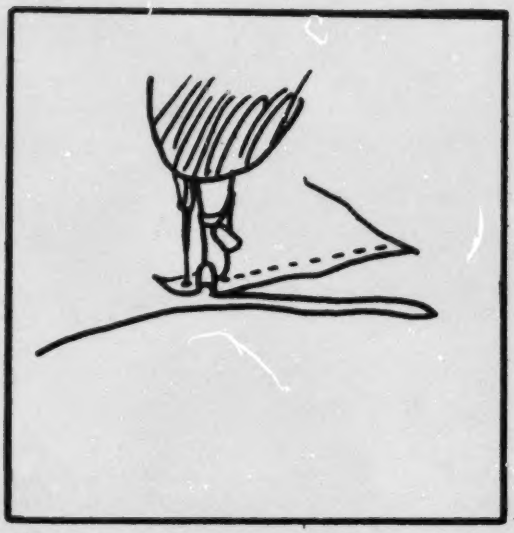

Figure 1

There is a knife attachment available which can be used on two types of machines. This attachment can be added to the single needle lockstitch machine and will cut the fabric evenly with the stitch (Figure 1).

On the overlock (serger) machine, the edge of the fabric is overcast after it is cut away by the knife attachment. (Figure 2).

Figure 2

These attachments are adjustable for seam width. In the case of the built in knife, both the presser foot and the throat plate must be changed in addition to adjusting the knife.

STUDENT SELF-CHECK

Write the answers to the following statements on a separate sheet of paper.

1. The knife machine is always a multi-needle machine. (True or false)

2. The knife machine threads like the felling machine and has the knife as part of the machinery. (True or false)

3. The knife attachment can be added to the single needle lockstitch and the serger machines. (True or false)

4. The knife machine sews and cuts at the same time. (True or false)

CHECK-OUT ACTIVITY

The statement below explains the activity you must complete in order to finish this module. After you go through the activity, your instructor will rate your performance using the Instructor's Final Checklist, PERFORMING SPECIAL OPERATIONS ON THE KNIFE MACHINE.

Your instructor will provide you with a knife machine or a machine with a knife attachment, thread, snips, and fabric. Stitch a seam according to the instructor's specifications.

Student _____

Date _____

Instructor's Final Checklist

Check the student's performance in the following elements of performing special operations on the knife machine.

Place an X in the appropriate box indicating not accomplished, partially accomplished, or fully accomplished. If, because of special circumstances, the item was impossible to complete, place an X in the "Not Applicable" box.

Performance Level: All items must receive a rating of FULLY ACCOMPLISHED (or Not Applicable). If any items are rated Not Accomplished or Partially Accomplished, the student and instructor will discuss this and decide which learning activities must be repeated.

	Student Performance			
	Not Applicable	Not Accomplished	Partially Accomplished	Fully Accomplished
The student:				
a. Threaded the machine properly.	( )	( )	( )	( )
b. Stitched the seam according to instructor's specifications.	( )	( )	( )	( )
c. Adjusted the knife attachment to cut properly.	( )	( )	( )	( )